


Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	1994/0108(CNS)	Procedure completed
Technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources (16th amend. regul. 3094/86/EEC)		
Subject 3.15.01 Fish stocks, conservation of fishery resources		

Key players			
European Parliament			
Council of the European Union			
	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Fisheries	2105	08/06/1998
	Fisheries	2077	24/03/1998
	Fisheries	1916	22/04/1996
	Fisheries	1821	20/12/1994
	Fisheries	1788	28/09/1994

Key events			
07/04/1994	Legislative proposal published	COM(1994)0131	Summary
02/05/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
26/09/1994	Vote in committee		
25/09/1994	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0009/1994	
28/09/1994	Debate in Council	1788	Summary
29/09/1994	Debate in Parliament		Summary
29/09/1994	Decision by Parliament	T4-0024/1994	Summary
20/12/1994	Debate in Council	1821	
22/04/1996	Debate in Council	1916	Summary
24/03/1998	Debate in Council	2077	
08/06/1998	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
08/06/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
17/06/1998	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1994/0108(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 163; EC before Amsterdam E 043
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/3/05583

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		COM(1994)0131 OJ C 118 29.04.1994, p. 0002	08/04/1994	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES1022/1994 OJ C 393 31.12.1994, p. 0175	15/09/1994	ESC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0009/1994 OJ C 305 31.10.1994, p. 0016	26/09/1994	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0024/1994 OJ C 305 31.10.1994, p. 0071-0083	29/09/1994	EP	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act
Regulation 1998/1239 OJ L 171 17.06.1998, p. 0001 Summary

Technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources (16th amend. regul. 3094/86/EEC)

This proposal aimed to amend Regulation (EEC) No 3094/86 laying down technical measures concerning fishing with driftnets by Community fishing vessels. The aim was to eventually put an end to this fishing technique and to establish specific control procedures. However, given the economic and social constraints involved, transition phases were provided for: vessels having operated in 1992 and 1993 with nets measuring more than 2.5 km could continue their activities during 1994, both in the North Atlantic and in the Baltic Sea. A gradual reduction in the use of all driftnets was envisaged, resulting in a complete cessation no later than 31 December 1997. ?

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For the Commission Mr PALEOKRASSAS indicated that he was prepared to accept the following amendments 3,5,7,8,9,15,16,18,23,32 and 33. In addition, with regard to socio-economic measures he could accept the idea contained in amendments 12,13 and 36 although these

would have to be re-worded. However, he was unable to take up any of the other amendments and in particular those relating to the call for the immediate ban on the use of drift nets. Defending the Commission's gradual approach, he said that it was based on scientific evidence and that the continued use of such nets during the transition period would be subject to stringent control.?

Technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources (16th amend. regul. 3094/86/EEC)

Parliament approved the Commission proposal with 34 amendments. In accordance with the substance of its resolution of 17 December 1993, it called for a complete ban on the use of driftnets from 31 December 1994 with the exception of those used inside a 12-mile radius of the waters of a Member State. In this case, the length of the nets should be limited to 2.5 km. The House also called for the establishment of financial aid in order to facilitate the conversion of the vessels concerned to other fishing techniques. It requested that a minimum of ECU 22 million be granted under the PESCA programme to establish compensatory measures in 1995 and, if necessary, a similar amount for 1996. Moreover, Parliament refused to include salmon fishing in the Baltic Sea in the scope of the regulation, since these problems were very different to those in the Atlantic. The Commission stated that it could not support an immediate ban as it would be impossible to establish adequate compensation mechanisms in the time frame proposed by Parliament. ?

Technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources (16th amend. regul. 3094/86/EEC)

At the December 1995 Council, the incoming Presidency announced it would launch an in-depth debate on the future regulation of the drift-net fishery. This debate was launched at Council today and delegations had the opportunity to re-state their positions. The representative of the Commission indicated that the Commission was anxious to make progress, and would be willing to entertain all constructive ideas put forward by delegations, with a view to achieving a qualified majority on its proposal. The Council once again stressed the importance of fully respecting current Community legislation on drift-nets. In this context, the Italian delegation gave a description of the national measures it had undertaken in the Mediterranean, in collaboration with the Spanish authorities, to ensure full compliance by its fleet with current legislation. The representative of the Commission recalled the efforts the Commission had made during the 1995 tuna campaign to strengthen control and surveillance, in particular through the chartering of an inspection vessel. The Commission intends to repeat this exercise for the forthcoming drift-net campaign, and intends its inspection vessel to extend in a balanced manner its activities to Mediterranean waters, whilst continuing its activities in other waters. The Council expressed its satisfaction at the success achieved in the enforcement activities to date and welcomed the Commission initiative in pursuing this objective during the coming season, without any increase in the overall fishing effort. ?

Technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources (16th amend. regul. 3094/86/EEC)

OBJECTIVE: To amend Regulation 894/97/EC laying down certain technical measures concerning fishing with driftnets by Community fishing vessels
COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Regulation (EC) 1239/98 amending Regulation (EC) 894/97 laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources.
SUBSTANCE: The regulation aims to contribute to the conservation and management of the oceans' biological resources by strictly regulating any expansion of drift-net fishing by Community vessels. The main points of the regulation are as follows: - the length of drift-nets is limited; - drift-nets are prohibited for fishing for tuna, swordfish and certain other species; - in view of the economic constraints on Community vessels, vessels may be authorised to continue fishing with drift-nets until 31 December 2001 under conditions where their use can be, and actually is, controlled; - the consequences of fishing using drift-nets must be subject to constant assessment; - the logbook data must be verified against the volume of landings, on which effective checks must be possible; - the Commission must be supplied with the information necessary for the supervision of the checks carried out by the Member States; - failure to comply with the regulation is subject to sanctions.
ENTRY INTO FORCE: 24/06/1998. The regulation is applicable from 1/07/1998.?